



PROTESTANT

#25/4/05 10:30

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2005 MAR -3 AM 9:30  
SC PUBLIC SERVICE  
COMMISSION

March 1, 2005

18 Castle Vale Circle  
Irmo, SC 29063  
(803) 929-2107Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
Attn: Docketing Department  
Post Office Drawer 11649  
Columbia, SC 29211

Subject: Proposed Rate Increases, Carolina Water Service, Inc., Docket No. 2004-357-WS

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Hidden Oaks Neighborhood Association opposes the proposed rate increases for sewer services provided to our residents. The Association discussed the issue at our February 21, 2005 meeting and attendees/members agreed that the rate seemed higher than reasonable given the amount of revenue that will be generated (\$1.8M annually) in comparison to the costs of the system upgrades (only \$2M total since 2001) per the February 18<sup>th</sup> article in *The State* entitled "Water Seeks Rate Hikes." It was noted at the meeting that the proposed rate change would increase our residents' fees by 35 percent after a 10 percent increase in 2001. A more moderate increase might be justified to address rising operating costs for the company rather than the proposed fee structure, which would appear to primarily benefit Carolina Water Service, Inc.'s bottom line per the Public Service Commission's announcement dated 02-03-05 paragraph 3. The Association conducted the enclosed petition and requests 15 minutes of time at the May 4, 2005 meeting to present our concerns.

Sincerely,

Rick Roberts  
President  
Hidden Oaks Community Association

Cc: John M.S. Hoefel, Esquire, Willoughby &amp; Hoefel, P.A. P.O. Box 8416, Columbia, SC 29202-8416

## Petition & Signature Form

The purpose of this petition is to provide a forum for residents in Hidden Oaks to protest the proposed rate increase for sewer services provided to our community. The undersigned believe the proposed rate increase for our neighborhood should not be approved.

Michael H. Hume 2/23/05  
Carmy Jones 2/23/05  
Wm H. Peterson 2/24/05  
Dorcas Peterson 2/24/05  
Douglas Diller 2/24/05  
Joyce E. Gilbert 2/24/05  
Sharon Hallaway 2/24/05  
Ruth T. Gell 2/24/05  
Vernon H. Backlund 2/24/05  
Virginia R. Backlund 2/24/05  
Janet Dicks 2/24/05  
Paul Gubler 2/24/05  
Fred Steer 2/24/05  
Lynna Parker 2/24/05  
Dawn Edwards 2-25-05  
John Edwards 2/25/05  
Randy Cannon 2/25/05  
L. S. Curran 2/25/05  
Loren Spratz 2/25/05  
Jim Peterson 2/25/05  
Vicki A. Corcoran 2-25-05  
William Connors 2-25-05  
Daphne L. Helbert 2-25-05  
Luz Gorda 2-25-05  
Joe Spink 2-25-04  
Helen Kline 2-26-04

Alan W. Connelly 2/26/05  
Beth Bragman 2/26/05  
David L. Peterson 2/26/05  
Ken & Laurie Pyce 2/26/05  
Don Searle 2-1-05

All signatures will be presented at the upcoming public meeting on the proposed rate changes.